

Approved 2/9/2018

TMCC SUBCOMMITTEE ON POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
JOINT MEETING WITH TOWN MEETING COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 30, 2017

Present: For SPP - Chris Riddle, Chair; Jacqueline Maidana, Co-chair; Michael Greenebaum, Clerk; Maurianne Adams, John Hornik, Hind Mari, Janet McGowan

Present: For TMCC - Peggy Roberts, Chair; Pat Holland, Secretary; Barbara Ford, Alan Powell, Mary Streeter

Absent: Adrienne Terrizzi (SPP), John Hornik

Guests: Laura Quilter

AGENDA

Approve October 30, 2017, Minutes

Greenebaum resignation

SPP Membership;

Recruiting Candidates for TMAC;

Guidelines for TMAC;

Preparation for March Town Meeting Candidates Forum;

Review TM member information on website;

Other impending projects.

Items not anticipated by the Chair 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Public Comment.

The joint meeting was called to order by SPP Chair Riddle at 4:04. The Minutes of October 25th (not 30th) were not available for approval.

Personnel Actions

Greenebaum submitted a letter of resignation from SPP.

Kitty Axelson-Berry and Laura Quilter were appointed to SPP by unanimous vote of TMCC.

Tammy Parks has indicated an interest in joining the Town Meeting Advisory Committee (TMAC).

TMCC and SPP members will continue to call names on the list of potential members of TMCC, SPP, and TMAC.

Guidelines for TMAC and Recruiting Candidates for TMAC

McGowan is talking to members of Brookline Town Meeting, and there is interest in having members come to talk to TMCC/SPP. Specific questions were raised: Why are all Advisory Committee decisions unanimous? How do members get selected for the Advisory Committee and how long are their terms?

Mary Lou Thielmann should be invited to meet with TMCC/SPP on either December 11 or 19, 2017. As chair of the Finance Committee she has concerns and thoughts about Guidelines for TMAC. Streeter will invite her.

Recruiting nominees for TMAC need more thought and publicity. The discussions about TMAC Guidelines should take place before active recruitment after the first of the year. Since membership requires only residence in Amherst, how can we reach out to traditionally underrepresented communities to inform them of TMAC and encourage them to be candidates? The process of running needs greater clarity since there are three avenues leading to candidacy(TMCC, Moderator, and self-nomination through Town Clerk) and it may be confusing to those not comfortable with town governance. This should be the focus of the press release (see below).

A new meeting of TMCC/SPP for the purpose of meeting new candidates for TMAC and answering their questions should be established. The date not chosen by Mary Lou Thielmann (either Dec 11 or Dec 19) was suggested. Those phoning potential candidates should know this date and tender an invitation.

Press Release

It was agreed that SPP would prepare a Press Release and that Adams and McGowan would collaborate in its creation. However, the focus of the press release changed during the course of discussion from a general report on SPP accomplishments to an encouraging announcement that TMAC membership will include residents who are not Town Meeting members, and that TMCC/SPP particularly hopes that Amherst residents from under represented communities will consider running. The Press Release should announce the TMCC/SPP meeting to which potential candidates are invited.

There was also agreement about the need for a general handout that can be widely distributed about membership in Town Meeting and on TMAC. No responsibilities for this handout were assigned.

March Town Meeting Candidates Forum

February 6, 2018, is the deadline for nominating Town Meeting candidates.

March 3, 2018, was selected as the date for the Candidates' Forum.

It is hoped that Terrizzi will be in charge of arrangements and that the Middle School can be the venue with substantially the same format as last year. Ford will notify the League of Women Voters of our need for moderators.

Next SPP Meeting

SPP will meet on Wednesday, December 13, at 4 p.m. Maidana will reserve space in the Bangs Center. The agenda will focus on net moves for SPP and organizing the Candidates Forum

Michael Greenebaum, Clerk